

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Crace

Commanders
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9
Jon Pernu - K9

Detective Bureau
Jeff Dwyer
Jake Williams

Officers
Jason Salo
Tim Battaglia
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson - SRO
Olivia Gottschald
Andrew Leibel
Alex Prouse
Rebecca Towner

Clerical
Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson

K-9
Tuuko
Jack



During the week of 1/21/24 to 1/27/24, the Hermantown PD had 142 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Scam

On January 22, 2024 around 1554 hours, dispatch received a call from a man who lived out of the country stating that they needed to report an incident that occurred online. Officers spoke with the man who was calling from Canada. He said that he found an item for sale on Facebook that he wanted to buy. The seller listed their address near the County Road 381 in Hermantown. The man sent the lister \$1,000 electronically but never received his item and has noticed the profile has since been deleted.

The man was alerted that he was scammed and that the seller listed was most likely a fake profile. The area in which he listed living at is more commonly referred to as Ugstad Road, which was a clue that this was a scam, as most neighbors would refer to it as Ugstad Road. The man was advised that in order to make a full report, he would need to contact his local agency in Canada.

Customer Trouble

On January 27th, 2024 at 1441 hours, Hermantown officers were alerted of a disorderly customer that was currently at the Walmart.

Officers arrived on scene and spoke with the 60-year-old man who was upset with how store employees treated him. Officers went and spoke with the employee who stated that the man was concealing items. The man stated to the employee that he was a racist and he shouldn't be talking to people this way. The employee stated that the way the customer acted distracted him from doing his job properly and that he wanted the man trespassed from the store.

Officers walked with the man to his car and notified him that he was being trespassed because of this incident. The man became upset and stated he wanted to go back in to sell his phone, which officers allowed with their presence, but told the man he would be trespassed after.

During this transaction, the employee alerted officers that he changed his mind and that he no longer would be requesting the man be trespassed. The man was informed of this update.

Water Main Break

On January 22nd, 2024 at 1518 hours, officers were alerted of a possible water main break near the W Arrowhead Road and Ugstad Road intersection. Hermantown Fire responded shortly after the call to find that it was actually just some water in the ditch. No other issues discovered.

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Traffic Accident

On January 25th, 2024 at 0636 hours, dispatchers advised squads of a single vehicle accident near the 4400th block of Airport Approach Road. Officers on scene made contact with the 59-year-old male driver. The man stated he was driving in to a parking lot and as he did, his vehicle slid through the driveway into a fence that was right by a gated entrance. The officer located and photographed the vehicle's tire marks which showed him sliding into the fence. The fence appeared to have minor damage and the gate did not appear to have any damage.

Officers also found that the vehicle had minor front end damage from the crash. No injuries were reported at the time of the call.

On January 25th, 2024 around 0804 hours, officers were alerted of a vehicle in the ditch near the Getchell and Thompson Road area. Responding officers were able to speak with the vehicle owner, a 23-year-old man. The man stated that this morning while driving in this area, he lost control of his vehicle due to the rear end kicking out. This movement caused the vehicle to go in to the ditch. Luckily, the man was uninjured, but the vehicle did sustain moderate damage.

The man was able to contact a friend who helped pull the vehicle from the ditch.

On January 26th, 2024 about 1922 hours, Driver 1, a 29-year-old man, was westbound on W Arrowhead Road and was stopped at a stop sign For Lavaque Road. Driver 2, a 16-year-old male, was westbound following Driver 1. Driver 2 stated that he looked down to change the song on his phone and didn't realize that Driver 1 was stopped in front of him. The front of Driver 2's vehicle struck the rear of Driver 1, causing minor damage to both vehicles.

Driver 2 was ultimately issued a citation for a Hands-Free Violation. No injuries were report at the time of incident.

Hit & Run

On January 26th, 2024 at approximately 1921 hours, officers were dispatched to a hit and run accident that occurred at the intersection of Midway Road and US 2. The reporting party stated that he was rear ended by a red truck that turned around and headed back northbound.

Officers arrived on scene and observed that the 39-year-old man's vehicle sustained severe rear end damage that broke out two of the rear windows. Luckily, the man was able to get the vehicle off to the side of the road. He explained to officers that the driver of the other vehicle approached him. The man told the suspect that he was going to check on his juvenile passengers and call 911. The suspect driver then walked back to his vehicle, turned the vehicle around, and left the scene.

Medical was requested for the juvenile passengers as one of them complained of neck pain. There are no known suspects at this time and no further leads.

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