

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 2/4/24 to 2/10/24, the Hermantown PD had 193 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Vehicle Pursuit

On February 4th, 2024 at approximately 0129 hours, Hermantown officers learned that the Proctor Police Department was in a pursuit of a vehicle which was reported to have been speeding over 100 miles per hour in the city of Proctor. The Proctor officer ended up losing visual contact with the vehicle.

At this time, Hermantown officers in the area observed a vehicle matching the same description traveling northbound on Highland Street that was traveling at 45 miles per hour in the 30 mile per hour zone. Officers turned around in an attempt to catch up to the vehicle as it appeared it was attempting to avoid them. Officers noticed that the vehicle attempted to turn, but it nearly skidded past the intersection before making the turn. Officers then attempted to stop the vehicle.

While following the vehicle, officers observed the vehicle lose control on a slight curve and spun nearly 180 degrees. After this, the vehicle moved forward and struck the squad. At this time, the driver attempted to back away from the crash. Due to the car's damages, the suspect eventually decided to surrender. Officers were able to detain the 22-year-old man, whose driving status was found to be revoked due to a prior motor vehicle pursuit conviction from 2023, as well as two prior Operating While Intoxicated convictions.

Proctor Police Department took over the case at this point. It was later learned that the suspect was heavily intoxicated. He was ultimately charged by Proctor with Fleeing A Police Officer In A Motor Vehicle, Second Degree Driving While Impaired - Refuse To Test, Reckless Driving-Racing On Street, and Speed-Exceed Interstate Limit. Hermantown also requested charges of Fleeing in a Motor Vehicle, Driving after Revocation and Failure To Cancel High beam Headlights Within 1,000 Feet Of Oncoming Traffic.

Accident

On February 7th, 2024 at 1300 hours, dispatch was notified of a two-vehicle accident near the 5000th block of Maple Grove Road. One of the vehicles was flipped onto its side and a person was seen climbing out of the vehicle. It was also reported to have been on fire. Officers spoke with the 34-year-old driver, who explained that he was traveling eastbound on Maple Grove just past the intersection at Lavaque. The man said he felt his eyes getting heavy and he fell asleep while driving.

Just ahead on the route was a parked truck with a trailer that had its ramps down. The man then drove on to the trailer and up the trailer ramp, and hit the rear driver's side corner of the truck. At this point, the vehicle flipped and landed on the driver's side of the vehicle facing west. The parked truck had no occupants inside and was parked on the south side of Maple Grove when it was hit. The

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driver sustained minor injuries, and an infant child in the car did not appear to have any injuries. They were both transported by medical to be checked out.

Shoplifting

On February 9th, 2024 at 1546 hours, Hermantown officers were dispatched to a shoplifting call at the Walmart in Hermantown. Store employees witnessed two suspects who were not scanning all of their store items at the self-checkout.

When officers arrived, the two suspects were waiting in the office to speak with officers. There was a 27-year-old woman and a 28-year-old woman who were noted with being cooperative.

Officers asked the women if they were skipping some items while scanning merchandise on purpose, and they both said yes. The women shopped together, checked out the items in the store together, and left together. The total cost of the items that were not scanned was \$220.96.

Ultimately, the women were charged with Shoplifting and were trespassed from the store for a year.

Driving Under the Influence

On February 10th, 2024 at approximately 0033 hours, Hermantown officers who were briefly traveling on Grand Avenue near N 43rd Avenue West, noticed a vehicle that had no headlights activated. The officer conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle.

Officers noticed that the female's eyes were bloodshot and watery. Officers explained to the 32-year-old woman for the stop where she replied, "Oh" in a frustrated tone and looked up at the ceiling of her vehicle. Officers questioned where the woman was coming from, and she explained it was a bar nearby. The woman's movements were lethargic and her words were becoming more slurred.

Officers explained that they would like to perform standard field sobriety testing. The woman admitted to consuming four drinks. Officers asked her to exit the vehicle to perform the tests, and she let out a loud sigh of frustration and replied, "Really? Do you hate me that much?".

The woman ran through the tests and also submitted a preliminary breath sample of .16. During transport, the woman told officers they would like her more when she is sober because she is "wittier."

The woman was ultimately charged with 3rd Degree Driving While Impaired and Headlights Required Sunset To Sunrise.

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