

# 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  
Jon Enright  
Erika Johnson - SRO  
Olivia Gottschald  
Andrew Leibel  
Alex Prouse  
Rebecca Towner  
Devin Kleive  
Lucas Hedin

#### Clerical

Dana Ross  
Samantha Knapp  
Ashley Johnson

#### K-9

Tuuko  
Jack



During the week of 6/02/24 to 06/08/24, the Hermantown PD had 169 calls.  
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

### Driving While Intoxicated

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at approximately 0153 hours, officers were approaching the intersection at Sugar Maple Drive when they witnessed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed of 81mph in a 55mph zone.

Officers performed a stop on the vehicle and asked the driver if there was any reason for the speed and he said, "I mean my house is right there, I'm just getting off work". Officers observed that the driver appeared to have a difficult time forming sentences, his speech was slightly slurred, his eyes were glossed over. Officers also could smell a faint odor of alcohol emitting from the vehicle.

The 36-year-old man said that he was deciding not to do any field sobriety testing. At that time, the man was informed that he was under arrest and to step out of the vehicle which he complied. Once cuffed, the man appeared to have poor balance as he was trying to walk and almost fell over as he got to the front of the squad.

Once at jail, officers asked the man if he would perform a breath test. The man then asked for a couple of minutes to think about taking the test which he was given and he later decided not to provide a breath sample. When asked what his reasoning was for not testing he said, "I don't consent to any searches".

The man was then lodged for 3<sup>rd</sup> degree test refusal, 4<sup>th</sup> degree DWI, Failure to maintain lane, and speeding 81/55.

### Structure Fire

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1115 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a structure fire near the 4000<sup>th</sup> block of Four Corners Road. The homeowner told officers that she was pulling her lawnmower into her garage when it backfired. When she looked, there were flames inside of the mower. She was unable to get the fire out and that's when she called 911.

By the time officers arrived, the garage was fully engulfed in flames. With the assistance of numerous fire agencies, including Hermantown Fire, they were able to put out the blaze and prevent it from spreading to the house. There were no injuries reported.

### Theft

On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1417 hours, officers received alerts from the Domino's Pizza in Hermantown that they were having issues with a customer. It was learned that a woman was refusing to pay for her food and was now yelling at employees. When Officers arrived, they found the woman was no longer on scene. Officers spoke with the restaurant employees who reported that a woman came in to Domino's and ordered a pizza.

# 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  
Jon Enright  
Erika Johnson - SRO  
Olivia Gottschald  
Andrew Leibel  
Alex Prouse  
Rebecca Towner  
Devin Kleive  
Lucas Hedin

**Clerical**  
Dana Ross  
Samantha Knapp  
Ashley Johnson

**K-9**  
Tuuko  
Jack



When employees told the suspect her total, she said she did not have any money and asked them to give her a free pizza. The employee told her she could not do that. The suspect began yelling, stole a pizza from behind the counter, and drove off.

## Shoplifting

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2159 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a fleeing shoplifter at Walmart in Hermantown. The reporting party stated that he had stopped a male shoplifter and the suspect was initially cooperative. However, the suspect fled on foot after he was made aware that law enforcement was called. Arriving officers located the suspect near the bus stop on Loberg Avenue and he was transported back to Walmart.

Store employees confirmed the 22-year-old man was in fact the suspect. Officers advised the man that he was under arrest. Upon a search prior to arrest, a scale with white residue and a few small cutting tools were located in his right pants pocket. Officers also located half of a small white pill in the brim of his baseball hat.

The total for the stolen merchandise was \$537.00. The store also wanted the man trespassed from all their locations. He was then lodged for gross misdemeanor shoplifting.

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 1549 hours, officers were dispatched to a report of a shoplifter at Fleet Farm. The reporting party advised dispatchers there was a female shoplifter in the store concealing items. While driving to Fleet Farm, store employees advised that the female was leaving the store now and they were attempting to stop her.

Officers arriving on scene witnessed the female suspect walking away from employees to get into a vehicle. As officers pulled up to the vehicle, they immediately recognized the female due to previous contacts with her. The 34-year-old woman immediately retrieved three paint cans from her purse and handed them over to officers.

Once returning in to the store, the woman stated she intended to take the three paint cans to give to someone who said they would give her twenty dollars and that she had no intention of paying for the merchandise. The total value of the stolen items was \$68.87. She was ultimately cited with shoplifting and was trespassed from the store.

## Unwanted Person

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 0918 hours, officers were dispatched to an unwanted party at the Econo Lodge. 911 Dispatchers advised that a hotel guest had threatened staff that morning.

Officers arrived and spoke with Econo Lodge staff who stated they were doing work in the pool room that morning and observed some items in the pool room area. He said he spoke with a male sitting nearby outside who was smoking and asked if the items were his. The male said they were, and he became upset when the employee asked him to move them. The male went inside the pool room while smoking a cigarette, which staff advised him he could not do. The male started arguing with staff and telling him he was only saying those things to him because of his race.

# 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  
Jon Enright  
Erika Johnson - SRO  
Olivia Gottschald  
Andrew Leibel  
Alex Prouse  
Rebecca Towner  
Devin Kleive  
Lucas Hedin

**Clerical**  
Dana Ross  
Samantha Knapp  
Ashley Johnson

**K-9**  
Tuuko  
Jack

Officers then went to the guest's room with staff and spoke with the male involved, who told officers that he was disrespected by staff, and he meant no disrespect towards them. The man stated that staff said things he did not agree with, and he did nothing wrong. Staff had asked that the man leave, so officers explained that to the man and he left the scene to wait for a ride outside.

