

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 6/30/24 to 07/06/24, the Hermantown PD had 199 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.**

Animal Disturbance

On July 4th, 2024 around 2301 hours, a woman near the 3800th block of Getchell Road called to report that someone knocked on her door and when she opened it, they tried to push their way in. The woman stated she was keeping her doors and windows locked and that she was hearing sounds between her garage and house.

Officers arrived and deployed the K9 officer out of the car and made approach to the property. Officers spoke with the homeowner, who stated that the noise started on the northwest corner of the house, rattled the north door, then the south door. She opened the south door and something pushed the screen door closed again. The woman continued hearing noises to the south of her residence as officers arrived.

The woman did state that bears have shown physical interest in her entry doors and the structure of the front of her residence, but that hasn't occurred in quite some time. No visible tracks around the residence suggesting anything. This incident most likely involved a bear. Advised the woman to call if anything else suspicious occurs.

Fireworks

On July 3rd, 2024 at 1404 hours, dispatch received a call from a resident near the 3900th block of Lindahl Road. The caller stated that fireworks going off in the area where causing her horses to run. Officers responded to the area and were unable to hear any fireworks.

Around 1538 hours, the homeowner called again upset because another round of fireworks had caused her horses to bolt and they are very worried about them running through their fence. Officers soon arrived and spoke to the homeowner who did not know who was using the fireworks. She explained that one firework gets set off every half hour or so, making it hard to find them.

Officers drove down the neighboring roads and looked for anything sign of firework use. Unable to locate and advised the late night shift officers to keep patrol in area.

Graffiti

On July 6th, 2024 around 1855 hours, dispatch was alerted of a male at the Walmart in Hermantown who was spray painting walls in the bathroom a bit earlier and was now back in the store. When officers arrived, the 34-year-old suspect was confrontational with store employees. Officers separated them and had the suspect sit in the back of the squad due to him creating a disturbance.

The store employees explained that they said they are having issues with graffiti in the bathrooms so they have been checking every half hour for new graffiti and cleaning it. Today they checked the bathroom and witnessed the janitor enter to clean all graffiti. They checked the bathroom a half hour later and saw multiple new graffiti spots. Once they checked the cameras, the only people in the bathroom between the time they checked was their janitor and the suspect.

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Officers then spoke to the suspect who denied any graffiti and said he was sleeping in the bathroom. The man told officers that they could search his bag. Officers noted that no graffiti tools were found, but employees said that the man walked through the woods before they made contact with him, so he most likely disposed of the tools.

Ultimately, the man was trespassed for one year and sent on his way.

Suspicious Activity

On July 2nd, 2024 at 2353 hours, dispatch was advised that a vehicle in the 4200th block of Timber Ridge Lane was parked out in front of a homeowner's garage with interior lights on, and had been out there for a few hours.

Officers were able to make contact with two female parties in the vehicle. The driver had explained that she had come to drop off her friend who lived nearby, but they got caught up chatting and eating snacks. Officers called the homeowner back to explain the situation, and he told the officer he hesitated to call but was mostly concerned because of how long they had been sitting there. Nothing further at this time.

DWI, Flee on Foot

On July 6th, 2024 at 2014 hours, Hermantown officers were dispatched on an attempt to locate from an incident stemming from Sammy's Pizza in Hermantown. Staff advised that they believe a recent customer who drove to pick up an order was an hour and a half late for pickup and appeared to be very intoxicated and that staff gave him water.

An officer in the area observed a vehicle matching the description. The officer witnessed the vehicle sharply veered into the left turn lane and stopped at the intersection past the pedestrian crosswalk markings. The officer began to initiate the stop, when the vehicle's right turn signal indicated a right turn into a nearby driveway. The officer temporarily looked down to their squad computer to verify their current location before approaching the suspect vehicle.

As the officer approached the vehicle, the driver's side window appeared to be fully open, but the vehicle was now unoccupied. A female who lived at the residence had told the officer that the man had entered the home and she was having issues getting him to come out.

Soon after, officers explained why they were there and were able to enter the residence. Officers located the man laying down on a couch. After he was able to stand and cooperate, the 35-year-old man was handcuffed and taken to the squad car outside.

Officers spoke to the man who confirmed that he went to pick up a pizza. Officers told him that a concerned person thought he was intoxicated, and he frowned and shook his head. When the officer asked him why he fled when being pulled over, he stated he just pulled into the driveway and walked into the house. He told the officer that he didn't see the lights on the squad until he walked into the house.

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Officers then asked the man if he would be willing to take the breath test at the office. He said, “nope” while shaking his head. Once at the police department, officers read the advisory including the statement “Refusal to take a breath test is a crime” to which the man stated he understood, and he followed with “it’s not a crime.”

Ultimately, the man was advised the he would be under arrest for the DWI and for fleeing on foot and would be lodged at St. Louis County Jail.

