

AROUND TOWN

During the week of 08/04/24 to 08/10/24, the Hermantown PD had 215 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.



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



National Night Out

On August 6th, 2024, Hermantown Public Safety was happy to host another year of their National Night Out event at the Hermantown Fire Department. This event is much anticipated by all of the department, including the city employees. This year, the department was pleased to serve the public a free dinner of hamburgers, hot dogs and pizza with many delicious side dishes. There were also several booths, including a food drive hosted by the Police Department. The food items collected during this event were donated to Second Harvest Northland, whose mission is to feed those facing hunger in our area. Many kids enjoyed a hands-on fire department hose spraying exercise, bouncy houses and a carnival style game. Thank you to the community for making this another successful year!

Structure Fire

On August 6th, 2024 at 1921 hours, officers and fire were alerted of smoke coming from an abandoned house near the 3900th block of Haines Road. The caller stated that there was a strong rubber smell in the area. They also reported that they were only seeing smoke and no flames at this time.

Officers responded to the scene and found there to be a campfire in the backyard at the neighbor's house. No other concerns or issues reported.

Fraud

On August 8th, 2024 at 1555 hours, a man came to the Hermantown Police Department to report a scam that may have occurred. Officers responded and took a statement from the man. The man explained to officers that a Door Dash employee came to his house the previous day with Papa John's pizzas. The man told the Door Dash employee he did not order pizza, but thought his son possibly did. The man said that he tried to call his son but did not receive an answer.

Because of this, the man gave approximately \$90 in cash to the Door Dasher assuming his son ordered the pizza. The Door Dasher did not give him a receipt and left. The man questioned if there was a way for officers to identify the man that delivered the pizza based off of a cell phone number he was provided. The officer was going to attempt to do this and there was no further assistance needed at this time.

Traffic Accident

On August 5th, 2024 at 1509 hours, officers responded to a two-vehicle accident in the Southbound lane of the 3600th block of Haines Road. Officers soon arrived on scene and spoke with Driver 1, a 53-year-old male, who immediately stated the accident was his fault. The man explained that he looked down for one second to see his chewing tobacco and when he looked up it was too late to stop.

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The man then rear-ended Driver 2, a 16-year-old female, as she was attempting to take a left turn onto Parkwood Lane. Both drivers declined any medical attention. Driver 1 was ultimately issued a citation for failure to drive with due care.

Shoplifting

On August 11th, 2024, Hermantown officers were dispatched to a shoplifting call at Walmart in Hermantown. Store employees had reported seeing a female carrying unpaid merchandise in a bag she had not paid for.

Officers arrived on scene and asked employees where the suspect was. They explained that the suspect went to a self-checkout register where employees could see from cameras she under-scanned items. After leaving the self-checkout register, she walked into the women's bathroom.

Officers then waited outside Walmart until store employees confronted the suspect in the entryway. The suspect, a 23-year-old woman, was very cooperative.

Once in the office, the woman told officers that she did not plan to shoplift when she came to the store. She said she placed store items in her fanny pack and only scanned some items. Officers asked if she had enough money to pay for the store items to which she said yes.

The store employees asked the woman why she went into the bathroom afterwards. The woman said she went into the bathroom, took out a package of markers, put the markers in her fanny pack, and threw away the packaging for them.

The total amount for the under scanned items came to \$101.15.

The woman was ultimately charged with shoplifting and trespassed from the store for one year.

On August 9th, 2024, Officers responded to a shoplifting in progress at the Hermantown Menards. Dispatch advised that a male and female shoplifter were concealing items in the store.

While officers were enroute, the suspects left through the garden doors. Employees had confronted the suspects and they fled the store on foot. They were reported to be walking with merchandise towards McDonalds. Before squads arrived, an employee had recovered the merchandise in the female's purse while out in the parking lot. A Deputy in the area was first on scene and stopped the suspects on Menard Drive. The suspects were identified as a 29-year-old man and a 27-year-old woman.

Officers returned the suspects to the store. They brought the purse into the room with the female suspect and asked if they could retrieve the stolen items inside, which she agreed. Officers recovered a drill and battery valued at \$428.00. The items were given back to Menards.

The woman told officers that she initially panicked and fled with the items because the employees confronted her. The woman claimed it was the male suspect's idea and he put her up to it.

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Officers then separately spoke with the male who said they were going to sell the items to make money to pay bills. He explained that he needed to make \$475.00 to pay a past due bill. The male confessed to selecting the item, concealing it in her purse and walking out without paying.

Both parties were charged with shoplifting. They were both trespassed from all Menards and released.

