

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Crace

Deputy Chiefs
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9
Jon Pernu - K9

Detective Bureau
Jeff Dwyer
Jake Williams

Officers
Jason Salo - SRO
Jon Enright
Erika Johnson
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 10/19/25 to 10/25/25, the Hermantown PD had 153 calls.
The following are selected incidents HPD responded to this week.

Disturbance

On October 20th at 1316 hours, officers were dispatched to a convenience store in the 4200 block of Haines Road for a disturbance. The reporting party said a male was yelling at her at threatening her inside the store.

Officers arrived on scene and met with the woman outside of the store. She reported that she went into the store to purchase a soda for her son, and a beer for herself. The store clerk would not sell the beer to the woman as she was with her underage child. The woman said that things escalated, and she was threatened by the male to be kicked out of the store. The woman was advised that it is not uncommon for establishments to refuse to sell liquor to someone while they are accompanied by minors. The woman stated understanding, and elected to take her business elsewhere.

Officers also spoke to the store attendant who confirmed that the sale was refused due to the minor being present. The male said when he informed the woman he wouldn't sell her the beer, she became upset, and began calling him derogatory names.

Accident

On October 21st around 0815 hours, officers were informed that a passenger vehicle had collided with the back of a school bus near the intersection of Stebner Road and Maple Grove Road. Several other callers soon reported the same, including the driver of the school bus. The bus driver advised that there was one child on the bus at the time of the accident, and both he and the child were unharmed.

Squads quickly arrived on scene and located a pickup truck partially wedged under the rear bumper of the school bus with moderate front end damage. Behind the tires of the truck, heavy rubber residue was present on the pavement as if the tires had been spinning while stationary. Officers verified the bus occupants were okay, and then redirected to the truck driver who was still inside the truck. The man was said he was okay, and when asked what happened, he replied "nothing". The male appeared confused about the incident, but did not show other indicators for impairment. As the driver was attended by medical staff, officers spoke to a witness.

The witness had been traveling just behind the truck, and observed it swerve a short distance before the crash occurred. The witness said the truck driver did not brake at all, and his foot was still on the gas pedal after the collision. The witness said they ran up to the truck and removed the man's foot from the pedal, and said he appeared "out of it" when he approached. The 41-year-old male driver was found to have suffered a medical event, and was ultimately

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Crace

Deputy Chiefs
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9
Jon Pernu - K9

Detective Bureau
Jeff Dwyer
Jake Williams

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

Clerical
Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson

K-9
Tuuko
Jack



transported for further care. During subsequent interview, he had no recollection of the accident.

Hit & Run

On October 21st around 1528 hours, officers were dispatched to a hit and run call in the Walmart parking lot. The reporting party had witnessed the crash, and provided the license plate of the suspect vehicle. The witnesses said the suspect had hit the other vehicle, tearing the rear bumper off. The suspect then pulled into the next parking spot before leaving the lot. They said it appeared the male knew he had hit the vehicle, and he was smiling after.

Surveillance footage of the incident showed the collision confirmed the witness statement, and also showed the suspect taking pictures of the damage with his phone before leaving. With further investigation, the suspect was located, and interviewed. The male provided several excuses, and ultimately admitted to making mistake.

Review of the man's driving record showed a previous citation for leaving the scene of a collision. The 40-year-old man was issued a citation for hit & run, failure to stop for a collision.

Accident

On October 25th at 1108 hours, officers were dispatched to a single vehicle accident in the 4700 block of Stevie Drive. The driver called in to report that he had driven into the ditch and set his airbags off, but was not injured.

Officers arrived on scene and spoke to the man who said he had been leaving a nearby business, and accidentally hit the gas pedal. The vehicle drove over the curb and through the grass before striking a power box, and coming to a rest in the ditch. The crash caused significant damage to the vehicle, and caused a power outage to nearby businesses.

Check Welfare

On October 25th around 1300 hours, officers were dispatched to the 4000 block of Haines Road to a check welfare. The caller said that an unknown male had entered an outhouse on the property and had been inside for over an hour.

Officers arrived and spoke to the male in the portable restroom. He said he was walking to work, but wasn't feeling well, so he stopped there. The male was informed that it was not for public use, and sent him on his way.

Officers noted that the restroom was completely empty other than a couple of small empty alcohol bottles that had been thrown inside the toilet.

Hermantown Police Department
5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, MN 55811
218.729-1200 // cops@hermantownmn.com

AROUND TOWN



Chief
Jim Crace

Deputy Chiefs
Mark Gunderson
Jon Esterbrooks

Sergeants
Griffin Pfeiffer - K9
Jon Pernu - K9

Detective Bureau
Jeff Dwyer
Jake Williams

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

Clerical
Dana Ross
Samantha Knapp
Ashley Johnson

K-9
Tuuko
Jack

